

FactSheet



C leburn StreetW ellSite
O perable Unit 5
G rand Island, Nebraska

May 2001

INTRODUCTION

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) would like your comments on a proposed plan to address contaminated soil and ground water at part of the C leburn StreetW ell site known as Operable Unit (OU) 5. EPA is proposing the use of a soil vapor extraction/air sparging system to clean up soil and ground water contamination at OU5.

Comments will be taken on the proposed plan through June 30, 2001. After reviewing the comments, EPA, in coordination with the Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality (NDEQ), will decide how to address the contaminated soil and ground water at OU5. The final decision will be published in a Record of Decision (ROD). The ROD will also include a summary of EPA's responses to the comments received during the public comment period.

SITE BACKGROUND

EPA has divided the C leburn StreetW ell site into five operable units, based on the various sources of the contamination. OU5 is located in central downtown Grand Island, west of Lincoln Street and the Union Pacific Railroad tracks. Land use in the area is light industrial, commercial and residential.

Contamination was first detected in Grand Island's drinking water wells in 1984. The Lincoln

PUBLIC MEETING AND COMMENT PERIOD

EPA will hold a public meeting to provide information on the proposed plan for OU5. The meeting will be held:

Tuesday, June 19, 2001
7:00 p.m.
Grand Island Public School
Administration Building
West Conference Room
123 S. Webb Road
Grand Island, Nebraska

EPA will take comments on the proposed plan through June 30, 2001. Comments may be made at the public meeting or sent to EPA at the address listed below:

Diane Huffman
Environmental Protection Agency
Office of External Programs
901 N. 5th Street
Kansas City, Kansas 66101
Fax (913) 551-7066
huffman.diane@epa.gov

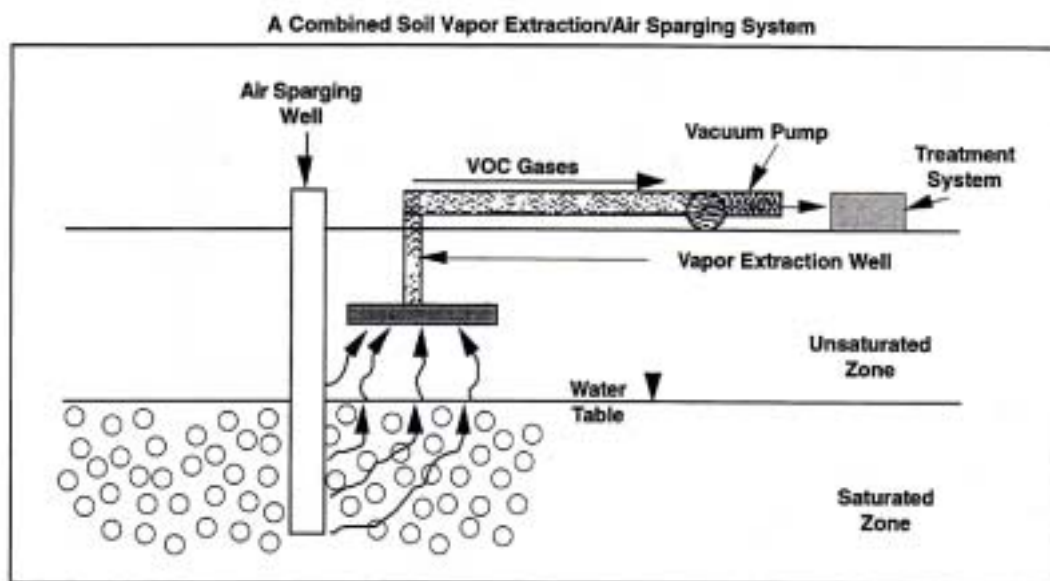
Street well, located within the OU 5 area, was shut down and abandoned in 1994 because it was contaminated. In 1998, the Union Pacific Railroad (UPRR), owner of the OU 5 property, signed an agreement with EPA to conduct an investigation of the contamination at OU 5. Contamination at OU 5 is most likely due to spills and leaks that occurred when the Nebraska Solvent Company operated a business on the property. The business, which operated from the 1930s through the early 1970s, stored and distributed organic solvents and hydrocarbon chemicals.

The contaminants found at OU 5 include volatile organic compounds (VOCs) such as tetrachloroethylene (PCE), trichloroethylene (TCE), and hydrocarbons. PCE is used in dry cleaning and TCE is a cleaning solvent. Hydrocarbons are found in petroleum products such as mineral spirits and naphtha.

PROPOSED PLAN

Six cleanup alternatives were evaluated to address the contamination at OU 5. EPA is proposing the use of a soil vapor extraction/air sparging system (see diagram below) to clean up soil and ground water contamination at OU 5. Air sparging consists of pumping air through vertical wells into the ground water to flush the contaminants upward into the area where they are collected by the soil vapor extraction system. The soil vapor extraction system also removes contaminants from the soil. If necessary, vapors can be treated before being released to the air. The soil vapor extraction/air sparging system should reduce the contaminants in the soil and restore the ground water to drinking water standards within five years.

The soil vapor extraction/air sparging system will provide overall protection of human health and the environment. It is also more cost effective than other alternatives, will clean up the contamination relatively quickly, and meets federal and state environmental requirements. In addition, it has been effective in cleaning up contamination at similar Superfund sites.



TO MAKE COMMENTS

EPA encourages community members to review and comment on the proposed plan for OU 5. Your comments will be most effective if you consider the following guidelines:

- Explain your views and tell us why you feel that way.
- Do you support or disagree with the recommendation? Be specific about which parts if you can.
- Can you provide examples or offer alternatives?

FOR MORE INFORMATION

The OU 5 proposed plan and other site-related documents are available to the public for review. These documents are part of the Administrative Record, available at the following locations:

Edith Abbott Memorial Library
211 N. Washington Street
Grand Island, Nebraska 68801

EPA Region 7
901 N. 5th Street
Kansas City, Kansas 66101

If you have questions about this fact sheet or need additional information regarding this site, please contact:

Diane Huffman
Community Involvement Coordinator
U.S. EPA Region 7
Office of External Programs
901 North 5th Street
Kansas City, Kansas 66101
(913) 551-7003 or toll-free at 1-800-223-0425
E-mail: huffman.diane@epa.gov